

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Canceled)

2: (Currently amended) A nucleotide sequence An isolated nucleotide molecule which codes encodes for a polypeptide having, within the molecule thereof, water channel activity which has the amino acid sequence, shown in the sequence listing under SEQ ID NO:1 and having water channel activity .

3: (Currently amended) The DNA sequence isolated nucleotide molecule having the sequence shown in the sequence listing under SEQ ID NO:2.

4 (Canceled)